Exemption from RTI Act

2638. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:
SHRI AMAR SINGH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of high profile public authorities have sought exemption from the purview of RTI Act;

(b) if so, the details of grounds on which these authorities have sought exemption; and

(c) what is Government's reaction in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Certain organizations have sought exemption from the purview of the RTI Act and their inclusion in the Second Schedule to the RTI Act on the grounds of those being in the category of Intelligence & and Security Organisations.

(c) These proposals are under consideration of the Government at present.

Pendency of cases

2639. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:
SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether CBI is examining ways to expedite trial of over 2276 pending cases, that have been gathering dust in various courts for more than 10 years, with 244 of them pending trial for over 20 years;

(b) whether CBI had 8,297 cases awaiting trial in 2006 after completion of investigations for one or the other reasons,

(c) whether NHRC has suggested that CBI be given concurrent jurisdiction, alongwith the State police to take up cases of serious nature in the light of delay and bureaucratic wrangles; and

(d) if not, the steps that are being considered in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) and (b) As on 31.12.2006, 8293 cases were under trial in various courts. Out of these, 1787 cases were pending trial for more than 10 years but less than 20 years, and 244 cases were pending trial for over 20 years.

C.B.I. endeavours through constant monitoring/supervision, to ensure that there is no delay in trial on its part.

(c) No such reference has been received by the CBI.

(d) In view of the above, question does not arise.

Appeals regarding denial of information

2640. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA:
SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of appeals, against denial of information, till date, received by Central Information Commission/State Information Commissions, and their disposal;

(b) whether most of such appeals have been rejected; and

(c) if so, whether it reflects that CIC/SICs suffer from bureaucratic constraint to share/divulge information?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) to (c) The total number of appeals filed in the Central Information Commission (CIC) on account of alleged unsatisfactory response/denial of information under Right to Information Act, 2005 as on 18.4.2007 was 6114. The total number of appeals disposed of the CIC till that date was 3328 out of which only 519 appeals have been rejected.